Sheet 1 of 1

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ATTY. DOCKET NO.
GE1610

SERIAL NO.
09/408,091

APPLICANT

EPSTEIN

FILING DATE

September 29, 1999

GROUP

3734**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION***(Use several sheets if necessary)***U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
SK	5 2 2 6 8 7 7	7/93	Epstein			
SK	5 5 8 5 0 0 7	12/96	Antanavich et al.			
1	6 3 3 1 1 7 2	12/01	Epstein*			
1	6 0 6 3 0 5 5	5/00	Epstein *			
SK	09/ 3 1 5 7 0 2	5 /99	Levinson et al. *			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLAS S	TRANSLATION
					YES NO
SK WO 9 9 5 9 6 7 0	11/99	International			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		* Copies not filed herewith

EXAMINER

Sharon Kennedy

DATE CONSIDERED

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
SK	4 1 7 0 2 3 2	10/79	Khoury			
	4 1 9 3 4 0 6	03/80	Jinotti			
	4 6 3 1 0 5 5	12/86	Redl et al.			
	4 6 7 0 0 0 9	06/87	Bullock			
	4 7 3 5 6 1 9	04/88	Sperry et al.			
	4 9 0 2 2 8 1	02/90	Avoy			
	4 9 3 5 0 0 6	06/90	Hasson			
	5 0 2 4 6 1 5	06/91	Buchel			
	5 0 2 4 6 5 4	06/91	Tyler			
	5 0 3 0 2 0 1	07/91	Palestrant			
	5 1 6 3 4 3 3	11/92	Kagawa et al.			
	5 2 1 7 4 4 1	06/93	Shichman			
	5 2 1 7 4 6 5	06/93	Steppe			
	5 3 0 0 0 2 2	04/94	Klapper et al.			
	5 3 6 8 5 6 0	11/94	Rambo et al.			
	5 4 0 5 6 0 7	04/95	Epstein			
	5 4 4 7 4 9 4	09/95	Dorsey, III			
	5 6 2 6 5 6 2	05/97	Castro			
	5 6 4 8 2 6 5	07/97	Epstein			
	5 7 7 9 7 2 1	07/98	Nash			
	5 9 7 5 3 6 7	11/99	Coelho et al.			
SK	5 9 8 9 2 1 5	11/99	Delmotte et al.			

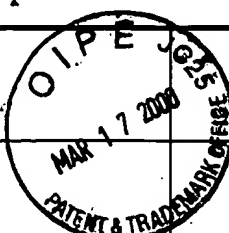
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	09/408,091
				Filing Date	09/29/1999
				First Named Inventor	Epstein et al.
				Art Unit	3763
				Examiner Name	S. Kennedy
				Attorney Docket Number	20450-37

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
SK	AA	4,143,658	A	03/13/1979	Rambosek et al.	
	AB	4,601,697	A	07/22/1986	Mammolenti et al.	
	AC	4,631,055	A	12/23/1986	Redl et al.	
SK	AD	5,665,067	A	09/09/1997	Linder et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
SK	BA	EP	0 738 498	A1	10/23/1996	Machida Endoscope Co. Ltd		

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Examiner Signature	Sharon Kennedy	Date Considered	Feb 6, 2002
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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See attached Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.)). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent documents. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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